



SAINT KESSOG'S

ONE PARISH – TWO CHURCHES
St Anthony's Balfron & St Kessog's Blanefield

Weekly celebrations: 29 December, 2024 – 5 January 2025

	Sun 29	Mon 30	Tue 31	Wed 1	Thu 2	Fri 3	Sat 4	Sun 5
Saint Anthony's	9.30 am			9.30 am				9.30 am
Saint Kessog's	11.00am			11.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	10.00 am	11.00 am
Mass	Sunday							Sunday
Feast/Event	The Holy Family		St John Paul II	Holy Mary Mother of God	SS. Basil & Gregory	Most Holy Name of Jesus		Epiphany



Last Sunday's
Cash Collection

BLANEFIELD
£129.50

BALFRON
£147

TOTAL
£276.5

We also thank those who donate by direct debit.

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel (Lk 2:41-52)

The Model Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The life of the Holy Family is entirely unique and provides us with a perfect model for all families. The line from today's Gospel "The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover..." gives us some insight worth pondering.

First, we see that this family fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, which is a testament to their commitment and faith in God. Family life, just like our individual lives, must be ordered by the laws of the Lord.

The primary law of the Lord regarding family life is that it must share in the very unity and "communion of love" found in the life of the Most Holy Trinity. It is their love that makes them one and enables them to act together in perfect harmony as a communion of divine Persons. Though Saint Joseph was not immaculate in his nature, the perfection of love did live in his divine Son and in his immaculate wife. This overwhelming gift of their perfect love would have daily drawn him into the perfection of their lives.

Today let us take a moment to reflect on our closest relationships. Take a moment to ponder on your family life. **Who are you to be there for in good times and in bad? Who are you to sacrifice your life for without reserve? Who are you to offer respect, compassion, time, energy, mercy, generosity and every other virtue? And how well do you fulfil this duty of love?** We are invited today to model our family life after that of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Let us allow the law of the Lord to guide our every action and relationships. Let there be mutual love and respect between couples and between parents and their children.

God wants us to share in a communion of life, not only with the Most Holy Trinity but also with those around us, especially our family. Let us ponder on the life of the Holy Family and seek to make their family relationship the model for how we love others. May their perfect communion of love be a model for us all.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, make our families like yours. Amen.

Fr. John Adesotu

Mass Times for First Day of the Year /Blessing of Families

On Wednesday 1 January 2025 there shall be Mass for the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God and special blessing of families at the start of a New Year.

St. Anthony Balfron : 9.30am

St. Kessog's Blanefield : 11.00am

Please come with your family and friends to Mass on that day.

Mass for the Opening of the Jubilee Year

Archbishop Cushley will solemnly open the Jubilee Year 2025 for the Archdiocese with Holy Mass and the blessing of the Jubilee Cross at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, at midday on Sunday 29 December. Follow 'Holy Year Scotland 2025' on Facebook and visit www.iubilaeum2025.va for more details about this special year.

Lourdes 2025

The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Holy Year 2025 takes place from 11-18 July. For more details please visit <https://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25>

Marriage, Family and Life

The Catholic Families for Life Newsletter is available to read online.

Visit <https://marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk/newsletter/>

Diploma in Catechetics

The Diploma in Catechetics is a year-long course beginning in January. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, readings from the Catechism and regular one-to-one support. Holy Year discount: £125 (normally £200). Register at bit.ly/diploma2025

Feast of the Holy Innocents

Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents at St Margaret's Chapel at The Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB on Saturday 28 December at midday. Complimentary refreshments and social afterwards. Register at bit.ly/prolifeevents or just come along on the day.

Justice and Peace - special collection

The Day of Prayer for Justice & Peace is on **Sunday 5 January 2025** and a special collection would take place for the work of Justice & Peace Scotland. A letter from Archbishop Bill Nolan will be read out at all Masses in all parishes that weekend.

Special celebrations in the Parish

If you have a special event to celebrate and would like to share it with other parishioners, such as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or memorials for departed loved ones, please contact Fiona Radif (stkessogsparish@gmail.com) to have it included in the parish bulletin.

This Week the following will be remembered at Mass:

RON MCINALLY (R.I.P) Sunday 29th, 9.30am at St Anthony's

CHRISTOPHER MCFADDEN (R.I.P) Sunday 29th, 11am at St Kessog's

JULIE LAIRD (R.I.P) Wednesday 1st, 9.30am at St Anthony's

KITTY TRACEY (R.I.P) Wednesday 1st, 11.00am at St Kessog's

TOMMY BURNS (R.I.P) Thursday 2nd, 10.00am at St Kessog's

MARY ALLAN (R.I.P) Friday 3rd, 10.00 am at St Kessog's

STEPHEN RODGERS (R.I.P) Saturday 4th, 10.00 am at St Kessog's

parish census

In order, for us, to function well as a Parish it is important that we have up to date contact details for all our parishioners. Please take a few minutes to complete the registration form on the website:

www.parishofstkessog.org

see the 'Connect' section, under 'Welcome'.

Thank You

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Please contact
George Edwards on Tel: 07866 683172
or email: geojoedwards@yahoo.com

PARISH BULLETIN

If you have any news you would like included in our Sunday Parish Bulletin, please email it to Frances at fmdouglas61@icloud.com or to Fr Jacob at stkessogs1@gmail.com. You can find this Bulletin and previous ones at

www.parishofstkessog.org

St Kessog's is a Parish of the Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, a registered Scottish charity (No. SCO085)
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